

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 34-59 are now pending in the application, with Claims 34, 40, 45, 49 and 56-59 being independent. Claims 34, 37-39, 42, 44, 45, 47-49 and 52-54 have been amended and Claims 56-59 have been added herein.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 40-44 are allowed and Claims 35, 36, 46 and 50 recite allowable subject matter. These latter claims were objected to for being dependent upon rejected base claims. The objected to claims have been rewritten in independent form as Claims 56-59, respectively. Accordingly, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 34, 37-39, 45, 47-49 and 51-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,549,240 (Reitmeier) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,300,982 (Koh). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As is recited in independent Claim 34, the present invention relates to an image processing apparatus for processing an image captured by an image pickup element included therein. The apparatus includes a resizing unit adapted to resize the captured image to provide a resized image, a memory unit adapted to store the resized image, a first conversion unit adapted to convert the resized image stored in the memory unit into an RGB image, and a second conversion unit adapted to convert the RGB image outputted by the first conversion unit into a plurality of serial data.

As is recited in independent Claim 45, the present invention relates to an image processing apparatus for processing an image captured by an image pickup element included therein. The apparatus includes a resizing unit adapted to resize the captured image to provide a resized image, a memory unit adapted to store the resized image, a first conversion unit adapted to convert the resized image stored in the memory unit into an image for a TV monitor, and a second conversion unit adapted to convert the converted resized image outputted by the first conversion unit into a plurality of serial data.

As is recited in independent Claim 49, the present invention relates to an image processing apparatus for processing an image captured by an image pickup element included therein. The apparatus includes a first resizing unit adapted to resize the captured image to provide a resized image, a memory unit adapted to store the resized image, a first conversion unit adapted to convert the resized image stored in the memory unit into an RGB image, and a second resizing unit adapted to resize the RGB image and output the resized RGB image serially.

As described above, each of independent Claims 34, 45 and 49 recites that the image processing apparatus processes an image captured by an image pickup element included therein. Support for this feature can be found at least in Fig. 1 and the corresponding description. It is respectfully submitted that neither Reitmeier nor Koh is directed to an image processing apparatus that processes an image captured by an image pickup element included therein.

For example, Reitmeier describes a video processing system for converting format and frame rate, but the process signal is received by a tuner 104, as recognized by the Examiner. A tuner clearly differs from an image pickup element. Koh, on the other hand, is directed to a flat panel display apparatus for displaying an image signal received from a host computer. This also clearly differs from an image captured by an image pickup element included in the image processing apparatus.

Thus, Reitmeier and Koh, whether taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest important features of the present invention recited in independent Claims 34, 45 and 49.

Thus, independent Claims 34, 45 and 49 are also patentable over the citations of record. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection are respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claims 34, 40, 45, 49 and 56-59. In addition to dependent Claims 35, 36, 41-44, 46 and 50, dependent Claims 37-39, 47, 48 and 51-55 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark A. Williamson', written over a horizontal line.

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